

# Eva Hewitt

## Tazmania

- 1885 Introducing Eva Hewitt at Niblo's Garden; soloist with Gilmore's Band (*NY Herald*, May 13<sup>th</sup>).

"At Paul Bauer's a band of forty pieces blared and made tumult, while some fine music was rendered on the cornet by Miss Eva Hewitt, who has just arrived from Australia on a tour of the world. She certainly has ability as a cornetist that will win her favor in competition with Levy. She is engaged for the season. Mr. Hewitt, a player upon nine instruments, is another musical attraction." (*Brooklyn Union*, May 16<sup>th</sup>, Coney Island article) (photos 1 & 2)

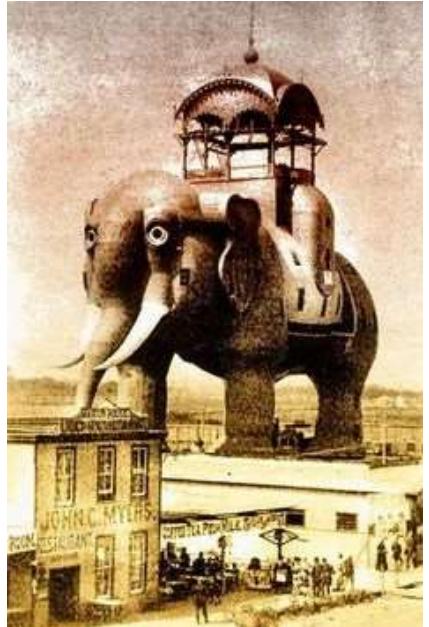
"Eva Hewitt will make her first appearance in the stomach room one week from Sunday." (*NY Evening Telegram*, July 22, reporting about Coney Island)

"Cornetist Levy (photo 3) has a peck of trouble on Coney Island. He has a fight with Leo Newmann, a quarrel with cornetist Eva Hewitt, a disagreement with Paul Bauer, and a row with a German woman who looked like a negress." (*Daily Graphic*, NY, August 20<sup>th</sup>) From a history of women performers by Galvin Holman we learn that Levy circulated stories damaging her character in April of 1885 via a hotel bell boy and got into a fight with supporter Leo Newmann on the stairs of the West Brighton Hotel. In August she was pitted against Levy at Coney Island where she "vanquished him." Since Levy proclaimed himself to be the best cornetist in the world it's no wonder he was out to stop her.

"The great rival cornetists Professor Knoll (photo 1, p.2) and Miss Eva Hewitt have kissed and made up and now peace reigns in Warsaw. Eva only claiming title as the champion female cornetist of the world, the statement has mollified the professor, who appears to be well satisfied with carrying the honor in the male department. They had played a duet "Sweet Violets". Eva will make her farewell appearance at West End this evening. From there she goes to the Lone Star State to brave the fury of the wily cowboys." (*Alexandria, LA Democrat*, August, 1885)

Hewitt playing at the Comedy Theatre at Broadway & 29<sup>th</sup> St; always billed with a magician named Harry Keller; "The cornet solo given in the interlude by Eva Hewitt was very fine." (*NY Clipper*, October)

Hewitt, the Australian cornet player, cancelled her appearance at the Exposition (*Buffalo Evening News*, Dec



12<sup>th</sup>). She made appearances at Koster & Bial's in NY and was engaged to be at the Wigwam in San Francisco.

Mrs. Hewitt, champion lady cornet player of the world, native of Tasmania, and old favorite of Melbourne, is said to be the originator of a lady's band in America (*Table Talk*, Melbourne, December).

- 1886 "Miss Eva Hewitt has few equals as a lady cornet soloist." She performed at the Van Amberg Circus in LA (*LA Daily Herald*, March 31<sup>st</sup>).

Hewitt played at the Fountain in San Francisco in July.

Hewitt played at San Luis Obispo (*NY Clipper*, Aug 3).

Quincy Opera House; Hewitt, the cornetist, was recalled several times every evening (*NY Clipper*, September).

Hewitt played in Jewell Park in Denver with Wagner's Band (*NY Clipper*, Sept 7<sup>th</sup>).

"Eva Hewitt, cornetist, has returned to San Francisco." (*New York Clipper*, November 13<sup>th</sup>)

- 1887 Playing at the Academy of Music on January 10<sup>th</sup>, she was referred to as, "the beautiful and brilliant young Australian cornetist Miss Eva Hewitt." (Wilmington, DE *Daily Republican*)

Hewitt, cornet soloist, played at the New National Theater in Washington, DC (*Evening Star*, May) (photo 2).

- 1890s There are numerous immigrations of a Miss Hewitt, born around 1864, between Launceston, Tasmania and Melbourne. No details are given as to her occupation. The only birth records I could find from this time are two daughters born to Harry and Ann Hewitt in 1862 and 1866 in Campbell Town. He is listed as a farmer.

Photos of Miss Hewitt are needed – please help.

